



PLACER COUNTY
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STEPHEN L. D'ARCY
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PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: DECEMBER 21ST, 2002 1:00 AM
DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: DECEMBER 20TH, 2002 4:40 PM
NATURE OF CALL: SEARCH AND RESCUE
LOCATION OF CALL: ALPINE MEADOWS SKI AREA
CASE NUMBER: SO02-20611
RELEASED BY: W. WALTON, SERGEANT

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

On Friday evening, December 20th, 2002, the Placer County Sheriff's Department was called to assist in a search and rescue. The Alpine Meadows Ski Patrol reported that they had been looking for an overdue snowboarder who was last seen at approximately 11:00 AM, snowboarding on the mountain.

A search and rescue operation was initiated by members of the Placer County Sheriff's Department and the Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team. The rescue workers endured heavy snow and strong winds while searching, and located a single track off of the west side of Alpine Meadows Ski Area, out of bounds on U.S. Forest Service property. The track lead northwest from the ski area.

At 11:36 PM, the searchers located the victim, Richard Navarro, a 33 year old man from San Pablo. He was just south of Whisky Creek Camp, which leads to the Five Lakes Drainage area. He was suffering from mild hypothermia, but was uninjured.

At this time, the searchers are leading Navarro to the Squaw Valley Ski Area to be recovered by a snow cat and treated for his condition.

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